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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Counselor and Chairman  
Policy Planning Council  
Washington

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November 13, 1962

TO: The Vice President

FROM: W. W. Rostow

Herewith a suggested passage about our policy towards the future of Cuba.

I found that people didn't press for a precise plan as to how we propose to get rid of Castro; but they did want assurance from us that we understood that the end of the missiles did not solve the Cuban problem.

I know that the President has wished to reserve reference to his September 13 press conference; and, as I note, you will probably wish to check with him before making that very important reference.

I hope these notes and my Detroit text are of some help to you.

Attachments

Notes for use by the Vice President  
Copy of Mr. Rostow's Detroit speech  
List of Questions Put to Mr. Rostow  
at Detroit.

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**QUESTIONS ASKED MR. BOSTOW AT  
THE ECONOMIC CLUB OF DETROIT**

In view of the recent conflicts in Cuba and particularly the Chinese conflict, has Premier Khrushchev's power been strengthened or weakened within his party, and with respect to the USSR public opinion.

If we engage not to invade Cuba, how then can Castro be overthrown?

What is the State Department's position relative to American soldiers who were captured by the Chinese Communists during the Korean War and never released?

Why has the President changed the meaning of the Monroe Doctrine?

If Cuba should bomb the US would our former threat to bomb Russia still be valid if they have not completely removed their bombs and MIGs? Or must we confine any actions to Cuba?

The presence of Russian missiles in Cuba undoubtedly created a very undesirable dilemma, and the removal of these from Cuba represents a favorable accomplishment on our part. But surely the continued existence of the communistic regime there in terms of infiltration is far more serious. How does the Government propose to resolve this problem?

Why did the USA not protest the invasion of Goa by the Indian Government?

What is Khrushchev's actions toward East Germany probably going to be?

Why did the President withhold air support from the anti-Castro Cubans at the Bay of Pigs after encouraging them to commit themselves based on the promise that air support would be furnished?

Recent events proved that the Cuban Underground were right about offensive missiles. Last week our speaker, Mr. Castellanos, stated: "Underground in Cuba reports offensive missiles are being hidden in caves." What action do you think should be taken towards Cuba if the above statement is proven correct.

What is being done to implement the recently enacted free-trade legislation?

What reliance can you place upon any assurances given by any Communist -- particularly relating to Cuba.

Recently Mr. Khrushchev stated that he does not want a summit conference now that the Cuban situation has subsided. Previously he was seemingly interested in a conference. What would, in your opinion, be his reasons for not wanting a summit conference?

Do you believe that the Communists have abandoned their goal of world wide conquest.

On Oct. 19, "The World" publication contained George Ball's statement that "Our policy toward Cuba is based upon the assessment that Cuba does not today constitute a military threat to the United States". Is this still our position today?

This morning's paper reports that President Kennedy may revise his stand on "on site" inspections in Cuba. How will we assure ourselves that all offensive weapons are withdrawn?

Does the observation of missile cases, perhaps empty, from the distance between two ships at sea offer reasonable assurances of their removal in your opinion?

Since the Council on Foreign Relations has been the subject of attack by 4 books this year, how does this body exert so much influence and what is its relationship to "the Establishment"?

Will the defense of the dollar necessitate substantial cuts in Foreign Aid?

What is the relationship between the Policy Planning Committee and the National Security Council?

How do you explain the guarantee that the United States will not use atomic weapons against Khrushchev, that we will permit Formosa to become part of Red China and that our direction should be to put our armed forces under a World Police Force as stated in your book - "United States in the World Area".

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In regard to your June Report that the Communist Bloc of nations are "mellowing" - do you now feel in view of the aggressions of Red China and the placing of offensive missiles in Cuba that they are still mellowing?

What do the American people have to understand about the changing economic and social characteristics of the "free world"?

Is it correct that the Federal Government has or is contemplating turning over to the United Nations - U.S. Navy submarines, and does NATO now control all nuclear power submarines?

You said that our AID program is designed to help those who help themselves. Turkey, with no war damage, has been unable to help herself, but is able to get billions of dollars, while able others are not receiving aid on the theory that they had not or would not use US aid wisely.

Assuming that the Communist Chinese would like to provoke a war between USA and USSR, a strong but neutral INDIA will be useful to keep the balance in cold war. Do you agree therefore to give massive aid, including atomic weapons, to India?

Given some generally agreed upon requisites for self-determination, what is our policy towards nations which do not fall within the range of effective self-determination?

The basic assumption of Non-alignment policy is that two blocks - West and Communist - are coming closer in economic and political outlook in due course of time. In the light of the above consideration what do you think of the future of non-alignment policy?

Is our right to access to Berlin defined by written agreement or only by use and practice?